WHAT IS CLAIMED IS

1. A method of assessing the urgency of an incoming communication from an originator to a recipient implemented by a computer, said method comprising,

   maintaining a log of past incoming communications for said recipient, and

   upon receipt of said incoming communication, examining said log and based on previous communications from said originator, assessing said urgency.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein said incoming communication comprises one of a facsimile transmission, an e-mail, a multi-media communication, an attempted telephone call, and a voice mail message.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein said examining comprises determining an interval since a last communication from said originator.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein said examining comprises assessing a duration since any of said originator's communications have been answered or returned.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein said assessing comprises calculating a numerical indicator of urgency including a number of received prior incoming communications from said originator in a time interval prior to receipt of said incoming communication.

6. The method of claim 5, further comprising, in response to calculating an indicator having a value above a threshold, identifying said incoming communication as urgent to said recipient.

7. The method of claim 6, wherein said incoming communication comprises an electronic mail message, and said identifying comprises modifying said electronic mail message to identify it as urgent.

8. The method of claim **6**, wherein said identifying comprises notifying a device associated with said recipient of said incoming communication.

9. The method of claim **1**, wherein said maintaining comprises recording a type of each of said past incoming communications.

10. The method of claim **9**, wherein said log stores a time of each of said past communications.

11. The method of claim **10**, further comprising maintaining records of outgoing communications by said user.

12. A computing device, comprising

a processor;

computer readable memory in communication with said processor and storing application software adapting said processor, upon receipt of an incoming communication from an originator to a user to:

examine a log reflecting past incoming communications for said user to assess an urgency of said incoming communication, based on past communications from said originator.

13. The computing device of claim **12**, wherein said log stores a time of each of said past communications.

14. The computing device of claim **13**, wherein said log stores an indicator of a communications type for each of said past communications.

15. Computer readable medium, storing processor executable instructions, that when loaded at a computing device having access to a log of past incoming communications for a user, adapt said computing device to examine said log to assess an urgency of a current incoming communication from an originator to said user, based on past incoming communications from said originator.